

Propane Watch

February 28, 2001

Energy Information Administration
Office of Oil & Gas

- U.S. inventories of propane recorded seasonal declines last week, falling by nearly 0.7 million barrels (MMB) to an estimated 25.9 MMB as of week ending February 23, 2001. Regional inventories continued lower in the East Coast and Midwest last week with declines of 0.3 MMB and 0.8 MMB, respectively, while the Gulf Coast region reported an unexpected gain measuring 0.4 MMB during this same period. East Coast and Gulf Coast inventories continued within their respective normal ranges last week while the Midwest region continued slightly below the normal range for this time of year.
- Residential propane prices continued to fall this week. The average price as of February 26, 2001 was 150.7 cents per gallon, a decrease of 3.1 cents from last week's price of 153.8 cents. The wholesale price dropped to 65.9 cents per gallon, an 8.5-cent decrease from last week's price of 74.4 cents. Compared to last year's prices, this week's residential propane price was up 28.0 cents over the February 28, 2000 price of 122.7 cents per gallon, and the wholesale price was up 2.6 cents over last year's price of 63.3 cents.

Propane Stocks by Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD) I, II, and III (Thousand Barrels)

Districts	January 2000	February 2000	Week Ending						
			02/02/01	02/09/01	02/16/01	02/23/01	02/25/00		
East Coast (PADD I)	3,235	2,008	E3,026	E3,225	E3,446	E3,165	1,871		
Midwest (PADD II)	10,891	6,664	E10,214	^E 9,419	E8,727	^E 7,929	6,452		
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	14,000	13,150	E14,854	E13,929	E13,354	E13,803	12,327		
Total (PADD I-III)	28,126	21,822	E28,094	E26,573	E25,527	E24,897	20,650		
U.S. Total	29,719	23,255	^E 29,218	E27,635	E26,549	^E 25,893	21,414		

E=Estimated data.

Propane Prices by Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD) I and II (Cents per Gallon)

	Wholesale					Residential				
District	02/05/01	02/12/01	02/19/01	02/26/01	02/28/00	02/05/01	02/12/01	02/19/01	02/26/01	02/28/00
East Coast (PADD I)	81.0	74.5	70.9	65.7	72.9	175.3	171.5	168.5	166.0	143.5
New England (PADD IX)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	172.4	170.0	168.7	167.6	145.7
Central Atlantic (PADD IY)	82.2	76.1	72.9	67.6	75.8	173.4	171.2	169.7	167.0	145.7
Lower Atlantic (PADD IZ)	79.5	72.5	68.4	63.4	69.3	182.5	173.5	165.6	162.3	136.1
Midwest (PADD II)	76.8	74.2	75.6	65.9	59.9	150.5	145.8	R142.8	139.1	107.1
Average	77.9	74.3	74.4	65.9	63.3	161.1	156.8	153.8	150.7	122.7

NA=Not Available.

R=Revised.

Source: Wholesale propane prices are based on Oil Price Information Service. Residential propane prices are available from data supplied by 23 State Energy Offices from October through March.

For information about propane stocks and prices, please contact the National Energy Information Center: (202) 586-8800.

Source: Energy Information Administration (EIA), Monthly Petroleum Supply Reporting System and Form EIA-807, "Propane Telephone Survey."